

CARTSNEWS

The Official Journal of the Carolina Token Society

ISSUE #10

May 2006

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

What a great meeting in Hendersonville! We had record attendance, lots of tokens, and a great program on South Carolina medals by Tony. Lamar Bland, of Durham takes the honors for traveling the farthest, with honorable mention going to Pete Oldham and Tony.

I have no record of who has attended the various meetings, but I would guess that half of our membership has attended at least one of the four meeting held to date.

And we continue to be solvent. Treasurer Bob King reports that we currently have funds amounting to \$531.01. Below is a summary of his report.

INCOME:

Dues and Donations	\$380
(One member paid for three years!)	
Paid Ads	\$12
Total Income	\$392

CARRIED FROM 2005: \$218.40

EXPENSES:

CARTNEWS Cost	\$79.39
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FUNDS AVAILABLE \$531.01

Now, I know this is the usual plea from any editor, but we need more participation in the newsletter. We will be a healthier, more successful organization if we have more classified ads. So, advertise something for sale. The cost is right, and surely you have some excess tokens that have been sitting around for some time. Or let your fellow members know what you especially want; maybe it's waiting in someone's pile of duplicates right now.

And finally, send in news of new finds, maverick identifications, and/or write up an article for the newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello to all members of CARTS,

I hope this message finds you enjoying the nice spring weather. We sure didn't see any at our recent meeting in Hendersonville. It was overcast and a little cool, but it didn't bother our members inside the hotel. We had eight members present at our meeting, which I believe to be an attendance record. There were lots of tokens on hand and most attendees went away with new tokens for their collections. We made tentative plans for our fall meeting. The site will most probably be Spartanburg, SC and the date will be November 4th, 2006. We will print the exact details in a future edition of CARTSNEWS. So, try to stay cool this summer and I hope you find some cool tokens!

Regards,
Tony Chibbaro
President, CARTS

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Brevard, NC 28712
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Comments, suggestions, reactions, (maybe even) criticism, will be gratefully accepted. Let us know!
Articles, New Finds, Announcements, and Classifieds to Don Bailey only! Dues to Bob King only!

A River-Salvaged Lumber Token From Bucksville, S.C.

**Tony Chibbaro
(CM #2)**



15 / WLB & Co // (blank)

In the mid-1800s, the town of Bucksville, South Carolina, rivaled the town of Conway for commercial dominance in Horry County. Now, the town no longer exists and not even a single building remains as a reminder of its proud past. But there was a time when Bucksville was a thriving village, with a large sawmill, a commercial ship-building company, several stores, a Masonic Lodge, and a small handful of professional people. This month's token was issued during that time, when the Waccamaw River was a busy thoroughfare and the primary commercial outlet for the entire county.

Henry Buck moved to Horry County in the 1820s, being attracted to the immense stands of virgin timber located in the lowlands bordering the Waccamaw River. Buck's family had founded the town of Bucksport, Maine and had engaged in the lumbering and ship-building trades there. As stands of large timber became scarce in Maine, Henry Buck naturally looked elsewhere for trees large enough to utilize in ship-building. His move to Horry County allowed him to slowly accumulate enough money and land to begin his own business in earnest. During the 1840s and 1850s, Buck's lumbering business flourished, and he built a total of three

sawmills on the river. The large old-growth cypress timbers were prized by Northern ship-builders and Buck supplied them by the shipload. It was said that Buck's mills could fill the hold of a ship with roughcut timbers 90 feet long and 15 inches square on the small end. Besides supplying lumber for Northern ship-builders, Buck also engaged in ship-building himself. By the time the Civil War began, Buck was thought to be the richest man in the county and owned a total of 300 slaves.



Henry Buck, circa 1865.

After the Civil War, Buck's businesses were quick to regain their pre-war footing. Buck also found the time to enter politics in 1868, being elected to the State Senate. He died in 1870, however, and left his businesses in the hands of his eldest son, William L. Buck. In 1871, W.L. Buck formed a partnership with C.F. Buck, B.L. Beaty, and James E. Dusenbury. This enterprise was called the Greenwood Steam Mill and operated for a short three years. The partnership was dissolved in 1874 when the mill burned down. W.L. Buck rebuilt the mill, but it never regained the production it had enjoyed previously. The new company was apparently named W.L. Buck & Company, which was listed in the mercantile directories as early as 1875.

William L. Buck continued his father's ship-building enterprise for some time also. One of the largest and best known ships to have been built in Bucksville was the *Henrietta*. It was a large three-masted vessel, built

specially for the China trade. Launched in 1875, the ship was later lost in a typhoon off the coast of Japan.



The *Henrietta* - launched from Bucksville in 1875.

William L. Buck died in 1880, but the company that bore his name lasted until 1895. In 2002 some of the

tokens issued by the firm of William L. Buck and Company were recovered from the Waccamaw River adjacent to where Bucksville had been located. There were a total of around 20 tokens brought up from the bottom of the river, and denominations ranged from 5 cents to 50 cents. There was even a 15 cent token recovered, an unusual denomination to have been utilized. This token, pictured at the top of this article, is one of the few tangible reminders of Bucksville and its past. It is made of brass, measures 28mm, features incuse letters and numerals, and is uniface - and in nice condition to have spent over 100 years at the bottom of a river!!

* * *

Copyright 2006 by Tony Chibbaro.

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Sources:

Horry County, South Carolina, 1730-1993 by Catherine H. Lewis, University of South Carolina Press, Columbia, S.C., 1998.

Timber and Turpentine Industries published as an online publication by the Horry County Historical Society,

<http://www.hchsonline.org/places/turpentine.html>.

UNION

SOUTH CAROLINA WANTED

POSTCARDS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY

William M. Graham

106 Hidden Hill Road • Union, SC 29379-9105

WMG@NUVOX.NET

New Finds from South Carolina

Tony Chibbaro
(CM #2)



In March of this year, there appeared on eBay the token pictured above. The token reads: JULIAN E. SANDERS / 1905 / HAGOOD, S.C. // GOOD FOR / 25¢ / IN / MERCHANDISE. It is made of aluminum and measures 26mm. Hagood is a previously unlisted town in the South Carolina catalog and I was very much excited to see it appear at auction. Later that day I was contacted by the seller of the token and was told that he had a total of three tokens from the same merchant (two 25¢ pieces and a \$1.00 piece). He said that he had found them in the bottom of a grandfather clock that he had just brought home from an estate sale. While I did not bid on the eBay specimen, I was able to purchase the two remaining tokens from him the next day.

Research indicates that the town of Hagood is located in Sumter County, about 15 miles due south of Camden. An acquaintance related to me that there is not much that remains in Hagood, only a small country church that doesn't even bear the name of the town. Despite the date of 1905 on the obverse of the token, the mercantile directories do not show Julian Sanders until the 1908 editions. He is listed intermittently between 1908 and 1912 as running a general store.



Also in March of this year, there appeared on eBay another unlisted South Carolina token, albeit this one was a maverick. The line description reads: TREXLER / LUMBER / CO. / RESTAURANT // GOOD FOR / ONE / MEAL (rd, brass, 25mm). I was the winning bidder in the auction, although I think that I paid too

much for the token. That's why I was very irritated when it didn't appear in the mail by the time that it should have. But after waiting for the token for 7½ weeks, I was relieved when it finally showed up in my mailbox recently. A bit of history on the token follows.

In 1908, the Trexler Lumber Company, which was headquartered in Allentown, Pennsylvania, purchased the lumber mill, commissary, company mill houses, logging railroad and lumber rights to thousands of acres of timberland in Horry County, South Carolina from the Sizer Lumber Company, also headquartered in Allentown, Pennsylvania. The lumber camp and village of mill houses in South Carolina was originally named Allentown, but the name was shortened to Allen, probably in order to avoid confusion between the name of the headquarters and the name of the lumber mill. Trexler Lumber Company operated in South Carolina until 1917, when the mill burnt down and operations were discontinued.

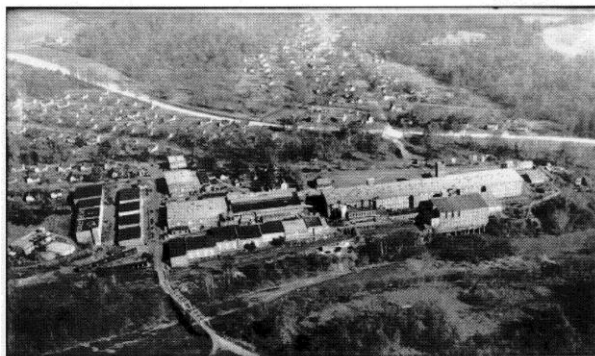
ERWIN MILLS PAY TOKENS

Lamar Bland
(CM #18)

Erwin Cotton Mills was established in 1892 in Old West Durham, North Carolina, with Benjamin Duke as company president. Under his presidency, and with the managerial skills of William A. Erwin, the company expanded its operations in central North Carolina over the next 50 years to include seven mills. Three of the seven were in Durham; the other locations were Erwin in Harnett County (mills #2 and #5), Cooleemee in Davie County (mill # 3), and Neuse in Wake County (mill #7). The eighth and final mill opened in Stonewall, Mississippi, in 1948. Ownership of Erwin Mills passed into the hands of Abney Mills of South Carolina in 1953, and then successively to Burlington Industries (1960) and J.P. Stevens (1986).

Erwin Mills distributed tokens which workers used to identify themselves for receiving pay envelopes. I have confirmed this use of tokens at Erwin Mills #4 in West Durham, and at mill #3 - Cooleemee Cotton Mills. The practice could have begun at both places in the first decade of the 20th century.

Cooleemee Cotton Mills was built in 1898 with James B. Duke tobacco money. It was located alongside the South Yadkin River, as the accompanying photograph shows. Although a massive fire occurred there in 1908, the mill was rebuilt within a year. At its height it employed 1,800 people in carding, spinning, and weaving, making it one of the largest cotton mills in the state. (Cooleemee Historical Association data).



Cooleemee Mills

The Cooleemee Cotton Mills token shown here, issued for employee number 1031, confirms the large size of the mill's operation. The metal token is uniface; it is holed for secure employee possession.

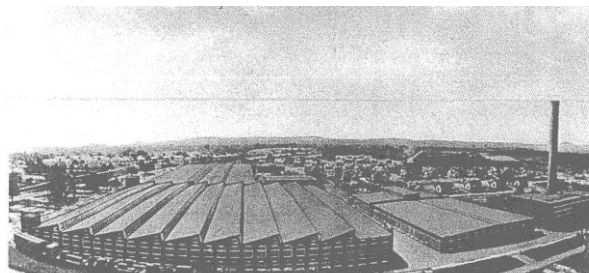


Cooleemee Pay Token



Erwin Mills Pay Token

The Erwin Mills token #1260 confirms that Mill #4 was large as well. "E.C.M.CO." identifies The Erwin Cotton Mill Company. The "West Durham" reference may indicate this token was used between 1910-1925, since West Durham was annexed into Durham in 1925. The token is metal, also uniface, and 38mm in size. Mill #4 served as a bleachery and finishing plant for the raw cloth produced in other Erwin operations in central North Carolina (see the accompanying photo of the plant).



Erwin Mill No. 4

Jim Rumley of the Textile Heritage Center (www.TextileHeritage.org), who supplied the scan of the Cooleemee token for this article, claims that pay tokens were in widespread use in southern cotton mills until World War II. Although my father worked in the Caroleen Mill in Rutherford County, N.C. for more than 50 years, he never made reference to "pay tokens." Nor am I aware of their use in 3 other Rutherford County mills near Caroleen. Thus Rumley's statement suggests the need for further research. Were pay tokens used mostly in mills where the larger employee work-force required identification security? I solicit more information on this subject (email-- blandl@elon.edu). I also encourage related colloquy in future issues of this periodical.

Rumley says that now these tokens are "very rare." Why is that? Were they collected from employees when management paid wages in a different way? Are large quantities of them still in private hands - perhaps among descendants of mill administrators or owners? Will more eventually surface in estate sales, flea markets, or on-line auctions? Or have they been melted down in large numbers?

Only a remnant of Erwin Mills plant #4 still stands - adjacent to the Ninth Street area of Durham. The Cooleemee plant is now occupied by The Stokes County Yarn Company. Other mill buildings throughout the country are being preserved. But many have already been demolished. The Textile Heritage group has initiated efforts to preserve these structures, as well as the tools and equipment used in the industrial process. We can hope that as the mills continue to vanish, artifacts such as pay tokens will become more visible.

Special thanks to:

- Jim Rumley, for providing both copyright permission and personal information about pay tokens and Cooleemee Mills.
- John Schelp, for data and images about Erwin Mills made available on the award-winning Old West Durham Neighborhood Association web-site (www.owdna.org).

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

CUMBERLAND HOMESTEADS (TN) \$1.00 TOKEN. \$40 postpaid and insured. Don Bailey, PO Box 1272, Etowah, NC 28729. I have one only.

WANTED

WILL PAY \$175.00 EACH FOR THE FOLLOWING MAVERICK TOKENS IN NICE CONDITION: 1) Clifton Mfg. Co.; 2) Pacolet Mfg. Co.; 3) W.W. Holcombe with Chas. Pick reverse; 4) F.M. Butler with Brunswick & Balke reverse; 5) W.D. Harris with Rothschilds reverse; 6) M.D. Lorenzi with N.B.M. Co. reverse. Tony Chibbaro, PO Box 420, Prosperity, SC 29127 (803-252-1881)

WANT TO CATALOG YOUR NORTH CAROLINA TOKENS, every one is important. Will attribute your possible NC Mavericks for the opportunity to catalog them. Bob King, 33 Cardinal Dr., Brevard, NC 28712-4227, 828-883-8028 tokenaddict@citcom.net

NORTH CAROLINA NEW FINDS

**Bob King
(CM #31)**

R. L. Garren:

This new find is exciting because it is the second token cataloged from Polk County, NC. Until a year ago Polk was one of five counties without a known token. I am hoping we can find tokens from all 100 counties in the future. Notice that this token is good for a loaf of bread. One could conclude that Mr. Garren owned a bakery but his business was a general store.



**R.L. GARREN / DEALER IN / (STAR) / GENERAL / -
(STAR) - / MERCHANDISE, / (STAR) / SALUDA, N.C.
// * GOOD FOR * / * / 5 / CENT / LOAF OF BREAD -
RD AL 24**

Note: Listed from 1900 through 1903 as a general store.

Macfie, Brodie Drug:

I have lived in Brevard all my life and had never heard of this token before one of our CARTS Members showed it to me around 6 months ago. Recently he sold the token to me and to my knowledge it isn't known around our hobby. I will do more research on it and attempt to identify the second partner when Brevard's new library opens.



**MACFIE, / BRODIE DRUG / CO. / THE REXALL /
STORE / BREVARD, N.C. // GOOD FOR A / 5¢ /
SODA - OCT BR 26**

Note: Listed from 1915 through 1920. Spencer Morgan Macfie was the "Macfie" owner. The other owner is unknown to the author.

Proeschers Driveinateria:

This token shows that nice old style tokens were still getting struck and put in service as late as the 1950s. This is a very deep strike with nice high raised letters.



Note: Andrew J. Proescher owned a restaurant that he called a drive-in-ateria or driveinateria from 1954 through 1958 and later in Raleigh. He also owned Proescher's Restaurant in Cary from 1943 through 1958 and later.

**PROESCHERS / DRIVEINATERIA / U.S. / ROUTE #1
/ NORTH / RALEIGH, N.C. // GOOD FOR / 5¢ / IN
TRADE - RD AL 23**

CARTS Membership and Dues: Membership in CARTS is open to anyone interested in the exonomia of the two Carolinas. Annual dues are \$10.00 and should be mailed to the treasurer, Bob King. Checks should be made payable to CARTS.

CARTSNEWS: CARTSNEWS, the newsletter of CARTS, is published four times per year in February, May, August, and November.

Advertising: Each member is encouraged to submit one classified ad per issue. These ads are free to members. Free ads should be no more than 50 words in length. No ads will be run continuously; a new ad must be submitted for each issue. The editor reserves the right to edit ads for length and any ad thought not to be in the best interest of the hobby will be rejected.

Paid advertising is also solicited. The rate per issue for paid ads is as follows. One quarter page \$3.00, one half page \$6.00, and full page \$11.00. Any paid advertising, along with payment, should be sent to the editor by the fifteenth of that month before the month of issue. So, for example, advertising copy for the May issue should be received by the editor by April 15. Camera ready copy will be accepted, but the editor will also compose ads from your rough copy if you desire. As with free advertising the editor may reject any ad thought not in the best interest of CARTS or the hobby at large.

CARTS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please Print

Name: _____

Street Address or P.O.B.: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone (Home): _____ Telephone (Work): _____

Token Collecting Interests: _____

Membership in other Organizations, NTCA, TAMS, SETS, AVA, OTHER _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Carolina Token Society.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

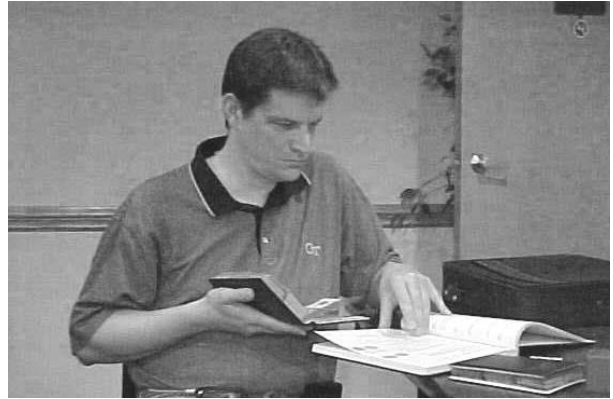
- Membership benefits include the CARTS Newsletter and a free Classified AD up to a maximum of 50 words in each issue.
- One-year membership - \$10.00.

Send completed application with dues to: Robert S. King, 33 Cardinal Drive, Brevard, NC 28712.

A LOOK AT THE FOURTH CARTS MEETING



Bob and Tony, Set Up and Waiting



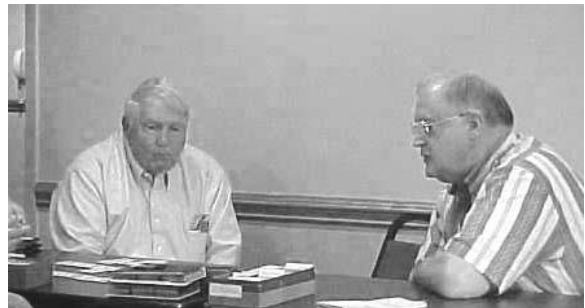
First, Buy The Book



Someone Must Be Telling About A Great Find



Serious Discussion



Serious Business



Lamar Surrounded By Goodies

Why Is Your Photo Not Here?